

States and over western and central Canada, but extreme eastern Canada had means slightly below normal. The month stands out prominently also as having in many cases the highest mean temperatures ever observed in February, and in other cases as having the highest individual temperatures ever reported in that month.

The uniformity of the temperature conditions is well illustrated in the fact that the daily means were above the normal each day of the month in several widely separated areas, while many others had only a day or two with temperatures below normal.

The departures of the mean temperature from the normal are graphically shown on Chart III.

The warmest periods of the month were not identical over extensive areas; in fact, the warmest dates ranged at intervals from the first to the 28th, though the principal dates were the 6th to 9th from the Missouri Valley eastward; about the 21st to 23d from Texas and Oklahoma eastward, and in some of the western Mountain States; and on the 28th in Arizona and Oregon.

The lowest temperatures were observed mainly from the 2d to 4th over the middle and northern Great Plains and thence eastward to the North Atlantic States; from the 8th to 11th in the western Mountain States; from the 11th to 13th over the East Gulf and South Atlantic States; and on the 27th and 28th over a considerable area from the Southern Plains northeastward to the Great Lakes and locally along the north Atlantic coast.

The lowest temperature observed during the month, 42° below zero, occurred in Minnesota, and temperatures below freezing occurred in all portions save the coast districts and southern portions of Florida, extreme southern Texas, and over the lower elevations and coast districts of Arizona and California. No important damage from frosts or freezing occurred, however, except in Florida and portions of nearby States, where tender vegetation was injured to some extent.

PRECIPITATION

While the precipitation over most sections of the country was sufficient for present needs, nevertheless the month as a whole was remarkably dry, and particularly so in the southern portions.

Over the Pacific coast States from central California northward the precipitation was mainly above normal, and was unusually heavy in some central coast and northern sections of California. In all other portions of

the country, save in a few small areas, the precipitation was less than is usually received in the last winter month. From Texas eastward and northeastward to the Atlantic coast the deficiency ranged from 2 to nearly 4 inches, though on account of the heavy rains during the preceding month no serious drain upon the moisture supply resulted. Over the districts from the central portions of Oklahoma and Texas westward to southern California the drought of previous months continued and great need for more rain was being felt. In portions of New Mexico the lack of sufficient moisture has continued for more than a year, and in Arizona and southern California the water supply continues inadequate.

SNOWFALL

The month was one of light snowfall in practically all parts of the country, and the depths on ground at various times during the month and at the end were mainly less than normal, in fact over large areas in the central valleys and eastern districts the total fall was the least ever known in February. The amounts in the western mountains were also very generally less than usually falls.

At the end of the month material depths were confined to northern New England, the Lake Superior region and thence westward to North Dakota, and the higher elevations of the western mountains. The outlook at the end of the month for a satisfactory supply of water for the dry season in the Western States dependent upon the stored snowfall in the mountains, continues mainly satisfactory over the Northern and portions of the Central States, but remains fair or poor to unsatisfactory to the southward.

HUMIDITY AND SUNSHINE

The lack of precipitation during the month was reflected in the average relative humidity, which was mainly below normal from the Mississippi River westward, and largely so from Louisiana and Texas northward over the Great Plains, Rocky Mountain and Plateau districts to the Canadian boundary. East of the Mississippi River the averages above and below normal were about equally divided, though apparently not materially influenced by the distribution of precipitation.

The month as a whole had much clear weather over the central and southern districts, and in practically all districts sunshine was probably more abundant than is usually the case for a winter month.

SEVERE LOCAL HAIL AND WIND STORMS, FEBRUARY, 1925

[The table herewith contains such data as have been received concerning severe local storms that occurred during the month. A more complete statement will appear in the Annual Report of the Chief of Bureau]

Place	Date	Time	Width of path, yards	Loss of life	Value of property destroyed	Character of storm	Remarks	Authority
Troup, Tex.	1					Moderate hail	Considerable damage reported	Official, U. S. Weather Bureau.
Butte, Mont. (near)	6	A. m.				High wind	Buildings damaged; fences blown down	Do.
Mulberry, Ark.	8	9 a. m.	150		\$20,000	Small tornado	Details of damage not reported	Do.
Calro, Ill.	8					Thunderstorm	Power house of traction company struck by lightning; all light and power service suspended	Do.
Settle, N. C.	11	9-10:30 a. m.				Heavy hail	Character and amount of damage not reported	Do.
Baton Rouge, La. (3 miles north of)	16					do	Minor damage resulted	Do.
Castalian Springs, Tenn. (near)	16				5,000	Thunderstorm	Barn and contents destroyed by lightning	Do.
Pooleville, Okla.	21	9 a. m.	100		60,000	Tornado	One person injured. Greater part of damage in oil fields.	Do.
Loon, Okla.	21	7:30 p. m.		1		do	Five persons injured. Several homes and other small buildings completely demolished.	Do.
Henryetta, Okla.	21	11:15 p. m.	66		15,000	do	Two persons injured; some property loss	Do.
Northern California	22					High winds	Communication and power lines damaged	Do.
San Francisco Bay, Calif.	22					do	Small craft damaged	Do.
Dallas, Tex., and vicinity	22	12:22 a. m.				Thunderstorm	Considerable property damage; 5 persons injured	Do.
Crescent City, Calif.	23	A. m.				Violent wind	Several buildings wrecked	Do.
Charlotte, Tenn. (near)	23					Wind	One home razed; other property damage; 2 persons injured	Do.